

istered during the silent mode in accordance with an example embodiment of the present invention;

[0024] FIG. 4 is an example of a prompt that may be presented in an instance in which an alarm is to be administered audibly during the silent mode which solicits input regarding a volume with which the alarm is to be annunciated in accordance with an example embodiment of the present invention; and

[0025] FIG. 5 is an example of a prompt that may be presented regarding a length of time during which to operate in the silent mode in accordance with an example embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0026] Some embodiments of the present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which some, but not all, embodiments of the invention are shown. Indeed, various embodiments of the invention may be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will satisfy applicable legal requirements. Like reference numerals refer to like elements throughout. As used herein, the terms “data,” “content,” “information,” and similar terms may be used interchangeably to refer to data capable of being transmitted, received and/or stored in accordance with embodiments of the present invention. Thus, use of any such terms should not be taken to limit the spirit and scope of embodiments of the present invention.

[0027] Additionally, as used herein, the term ‘circuitry’ refers to (a) hardware-only circuit implementations (e.g., implementations in analog circuitry and/or digital circuitry); (b) combinations of circuits and computer program product (s) comprising software and/or firmware instructions stored on one or more computer readable memories that work together to cause an apparatus to perform one or more functions described herein; and (c) circuits, such as, for example, a microprocessor(s) or a portion of a microprocessor(s), that require software or firmware for operation even if the software or firmware is not physically present. This definition of ‘circuitry’ applies to all uses of this term herein, including in any claims. As a further example, as used herein, the term ‘circuitry’ also includes an implementation comprising one or more processors and/or portion(s) thereof and accompanying software and/or firmware. As another example, the term ‘circuitry’ as used herein also includes, for example, a baseband integrated circuit or applications processor integrated circuit for a mobile phone or a similar integrated circuit in a server, a cellular network device, other network device, and/or other computing device.

[0028] As defined herein, a “computer-readable storage medium,” which refers to a non-transitory physical storage medium (e.g., volatile or non-volatile memory device), can be differentiated from a “computer-readable transmission medium,” which refers to an electromagnetic signal.

[0029] A method, apparatus and computer program product are provided in accordance with an example embodiment in order to selectively configure one or more alarms prior to commencing a silent mode of operation of a computing device. As such, a user may prioritize operation in the silent mode with respect to one or more alarms that are otherwise scheduled to occur during the silent mode. Consequently, the computing device may be configured to both operate in the

silent mode and to selectively provide notification(s) associated with one or more alarms during the silent mode in instances in which the user has defined the one or more alarms to have priority with respect to the silent mode of operation. In an instance in which an alarm is to be provided during the silent mode, the method, apparatus and computer program product of an example embodiment may permit the manner in which the alarm is to be administered to be tailored in order to further balance the competing concerns of operation in the silent mode and a desire for notification of the alarm.

[0030] The method, apparatus and computer program product may be performed by or in association with a variety of computing devices. For example, the computing device that provides for selective configuration of alarms prior to commencing a silent mode of operation may be a user device, such as a mobile terminal including, for example, a portable digital assistant (PDA), mobile telephone, smartphone, pager, mobile television, gaming device, laptop computer, camera, tablet computer, touch surface, video recorder, audio/video player, radio, electronic book, positioning device (e.g., global positioning system (GPS) device), or any combination of the aforementioned, and other types of voice and text communications systems. Alternatively, the user device that embodies or is otherwise associated with a method, apparatus and computer program product of an example embodiment may be a fixed or other non-mobile computing device, such as a desktop computer, a personal computer, a workstation or the like. Still further, the computing device may be a server or other network device that may be configured to manage the administration of alerts for one or more user devices. For purposes of illustration, but not of limitation, a computing device operated by a user will be hereinafter described in conjunction with the selective configuration of one or more alarms prior to commencing a silent mode of operation.

[0031] Regardless of the manner in which the computing device is embodied, the computing device may include or otherwise be associated with an apparatus **10**, such as that shown in FIG. 1, that is specifically configured in accordance with an example embodiment of the present invention to selectively configure one or more alarms prior to commencing a silent mode of operation. The apparatus may include or otherwise be in communication with a processor **12**, a memory device **14**, an optional communication interface **16** and a user interface **18**. In some embodiments, the processor (and/or co-processors or any other processing circuitry assisting or otherwise associated with the processor) may be in communication with the memory device via a bus for passing information among components of the apparatus. The memory device may be non-transitory and may include, for example, one or more volatile and/or non-volatile memories. In other words, for example, the memory device may be an electronic storage device (e.g., a computer readable storage medium) comprising gates configured to store data (e.g., bits) that may be retrievable by a machine (e.g., a computing device like the processor). The memory device may be configured to store information, data, content, applications, instructions, or the like for enabling the apparatus to carry out various functions in accordance with an example embodiment of the present invention. For example, the memory device could be configured to buffer input data for processing by the processor. Additionally or alternatively, the memory device could be configured to store instructions for execution by the processor.